



### Donations accepted

The following contributions were graciously accepted:

- **Davison Educational Association** donated money to purchase books for incoming students during Kindergarten Round-Up.
- **Scott and Bree Moore** donated two boxes of children's books to the Cardinal's Nest and GSRP preschool program.
- **Hope Medicos** donated money to the DCER Youth Wrestling program to be used as a scholarship.
- **Davison Eagles Auxiliary** donated a large quantity of school supplies for teachers to use in classrooms as needed.
- **VG's Food Center** donated hundreds of seed packets, which will be used by Mr. Bob Konzman's class in the Hahn Community Garden.
- **Davison Meijer** donated a \$500 gift card to Hahn Intermediate to be used in a courtyard project.

## Parking lot renovations on tap for Gates Elementary this summer

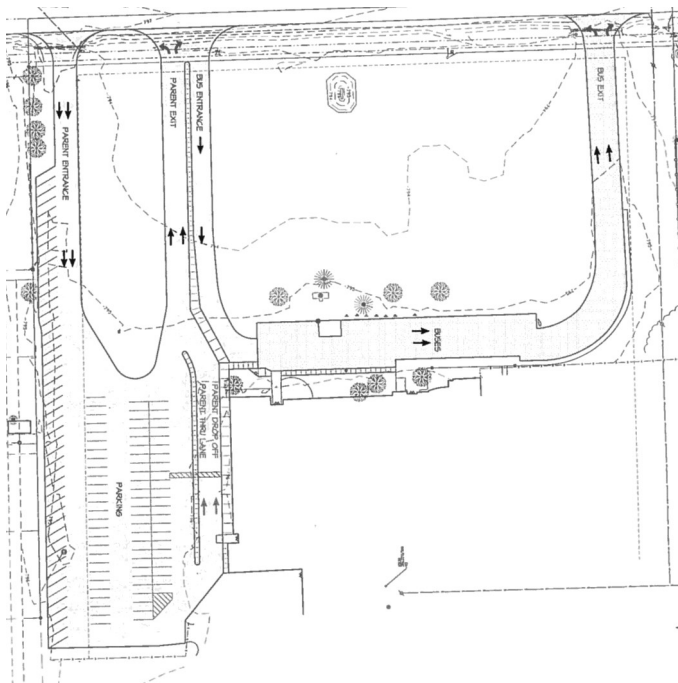
Dropping off and picking up students should be a whole lot easier for Gates Elementary parents come next school year.

Construction on a new parking lot that will include a separate bus loop will begin Saturday, June 23. Work is expected to be completed by August 10.

Board of Education members voted Monday, April 16, to pay \$523,109 to DCC Construction, Inc., to complete the project, which includes a total reconstruction of the south parking lot and addition of a horse-shoe style driveway for improved traffic flow. The project also includes a newly constructed bus loop, which will keep cars and buses separated and additional parking.

Funds from the voter-approved Building and Site Sinking levy will be used to pay for the project.

Prior to board approval, the project was reviewed by the Board's Building, Grounds and Transportation Committee as well as the district's architecture firm, Kingscott Associates.



Architect rendering of the Gates Parking Lot expansion project by Kingscott.

**D**avison Community Schools

Where Kids Come First and Futures Begin

*Connections ♦ Curriculum ♦ Opportunities*

Board Briefs is a monthly newsletter published after Board of Education meetings. For additional information, please contact the Communications Department at 591-0852.

# Board briefs

# Presentations

## Gates Teacher Cindy McCollum named “Kids First” April recipient

**Cindy McCollum**, who teaches third grade students at Gates Elementary, is the April 2018 recipient of the “Kids First” Award.

Each month, administrators nominate a DCS employee who best exemplifies what it means to be “Kids First.” Winners receive a \$100 Visa gift card thanks to Mark Owen, owner of MEEMIC insurance agencies in Davison and Flint Township, and a certificate. The winner is chosen at random.

Mrs. McCollum was nominated by Gates Elementary Principal **Theresa Wendt**, who wrote:

“Cindy is truly a Davison Community Schools Kids First Employee! Starting early morning until late evening, Cindy structures her whole day around her students and their academic progress. She packs each day with meaningful instruction and performance activities for students. Students are the center of the classroom and she works closely with her students to regularly evaluate both behavioral and academic progress.

“Cindy develops amazing relationships with both her students and their families. She welcomes her students each morning at the door and bids them goodbye at the end of the day...and letting them know that she loves them. Which she truly does!

A couple of examples of Cindy’s Kids First Approach include:

- Tutoring students in reading after school, at no charge to the parents, and transporting them home at the end of each session. This additional one-on-one attention has made a difference in the academic progress of these students.
- Working with a parent to help get the medical assistance her child needs. This has included researching doctors and therapists who accept the parents insurance and are open to taking on new patients.
- Meeting the individual needs of students based on data...even if this means individualizing instruction for 31 students!
- And finally, Cindy’s Kids First approach includes knowing where all 155 third grade students are academically and assisting her colleagues as need be in meeting all students’ needs.”

Other great DCS staff members nominated this month for the Kids First award were: Central Elementary Literacy Specialist **Melissa Barraco**, Central/Hill Elementary Teacher **Melissa Jones**, Davison High School Teacher **Ryan Kelsey**, Thomson Elementary Speech Pathologist **Erin O’Connor**, Superintendent’s Secretary **Robin Ricica** and Davison High School Teacher **Amy Sherlock**.



Left to right, Superintendent Eric Lieske, Gates Elementary Teacher Cindy McCollum, Board of Education President Kathy Sudia and Gates Elementary Principal Theresa Wendt.





# Presentations



## Traveling Library program nets \$2,500 grant

Gates Elementary staff and Superintendent Eric Lieske accept a \$2,500 grant, trophy and “Education Excellence Winner” road sign from Cindy Gansen, President of the GISD Board of Education and member of the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB). The grant will be used for the Traveling Library, a school bus that will visit neighborhoods this summer to bring free books to children. The program was one of 25 winners out of hundreds of applicants to win. The Education Excellence Award is produced through a partnership between the SET SEG Foundation and Michigan Association of School Boards. This year, in celebration of the program’s 25th anniversary, the SET SEG Foundation awarded \$2,500 grants to 25 extraordinary Michigan public school programs.



Left, Superintendent Eric Lieske and Board President Kathy Sudia present Anne Kelley, far left, of the Davison Optimists Club with a plaque recognizing the club’s support to DCS. As reported in last month’s Building Beat, the Davison Optimists Club recently awarded DCS with \$24,000 for literacy efforts and to stock school food pantries. Below, GISD Board of Education members Richard Hill and Cindy Gansen present the board with a banner following a presentation that highlighted GISD programs and services.



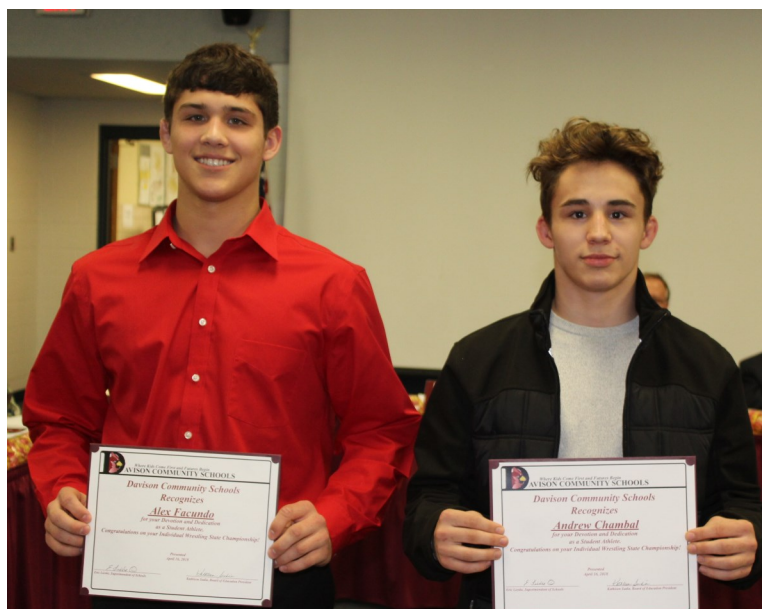


# Presentations



## All-State Student Athletes

Board of Education members recognized student athletes earning state championship and All-State status at the April 16 meeting. Clockwise, beginning above, Davison Varsity Pom Pon team members earned the state championship in the Division 2 Mid-American Pom Association. Individual wrestling state champions included Alex Facundo, left, and Andrew Chamhal. All-State student athletes Gage Thrall (Hockey), Jay Nivison (Wrestling) and Tariq Reid (Football). Not pictured are All-State wrestling athletes Brian Case, Steven Garty, Arron Gilmore, Marc Schaeffer and Cal Stefanko.





# Presentations



## Leading the Pledge

Thomson Elementary students from Mrs. Megan Romanik's classroom led the Pledge of Allegiance at the April 16 Board of Education meeting. The class has been learning sign language throughout the year thanks to one of their classmates who is fluent in American Sign Language. These hardworking students have learned how to sign holiday songs, various signs used in the classroom and signed the Pledge at the meeting. The students were accompanied by Mrs. Romanik and Thomson Elementary Principal Mrs. Natalie Miler.



# Action Items

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## Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is May 6-12

Board of Education members approved a resolution proclaiming May 6-12 as Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week at Davison Community Schools.

"We don't get a chance to say thank you every day but once a year is not enough," said Board Vice President **Mark McGlashen**. "We appreciate the dedication of our staff. We have had good times and we have had bad times but they have always supported us."

Board Secretary **Karen Conover** said she often gets overwhelmed when hearing the anecdotal stories about the kindness of school staff from people she runs into.

"Everywhere I go I get compliments about our staff," she said. "I'm just so proud to say I am from Davison and I am so overwhelmingly proud of our staff and the things they do to put kids first."

## Board approves ACC recommendations for curriculum

Music for grades K-12, art, math, reading, Spanish and Success 101 are among the subject areas that will be receiving new textbooks and curriculum materials for the 2018-19 school year.

Board members approved purchases totaling a bit more than \$300,000 for the materials.

Other subject areas scheduled to receive curriculum materials include: Beginning Broadcasting at Davison Middle School, Humanities and Interior Design.

The recommendations were made by the district's Advisory Curriculum Council.

## Board authorizes courses for high school credit

The Michigan Department of Education now requires boards of education to authorize its courses offered for credit and on-line courses annually. Board of Education members did just that at their Monday, April 16, Board of Education meeting.

The courses offered for credit can be found in the Davison High School Course Catalog, which is located on the district's website.

In addition to those courses, Davison Alternative Education also offers the following courses for high school credit: School to Work, Current Events, Senior Project, Creative Writing and Advisory.

The district has also created its own Davison online courses utilizing the ACC-approved curriculum aligned to state standards. The courses are taught by Davison High School teachers and students from anywhere can enroll in those online courses through the Genesee Intermediate School District's Gen-NET learning portal.

"It is quite impressive that those online courses were written by our teachers," said Superintendent **Eric Lieske**. "People all over the country are taking those online courses that our Davison teachers developed."